MINUTES

OF THE

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH

ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association

- 1949 -

HELD WITH

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH

UNION COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SEPTEMBER 16, 17, 18, 1949

OFFICERS

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator

BROTHER A. E. BROOM, Clerk

PRESTON HELMS, Assistant Clerk

PROCEEDINGS

The Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association convened with Pleasant Grove Church, Union County, North Carolina, Friday, September 16th, 1949 and continued through Saturday and Sunday following.

Brethren, Sisters and friends congregated at 10:30 o'clock at the stand and engaged in songs of praise, followed with prayer by Elder J. P. S. Stevens, of Georgia, and the introductory sermon by Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Pleasant Grove Church. Text Ephesians 1:15-23.

Following the introductory an hour or more was taken for serving refreshments, and meeting with old and new acquaintants, after which the Association met in the house and sang songs of praise followed with prayer by Elder J. T. Lewis from the Little River of North Carolina.

Pleasant Grove Church and Messengers and Brethren composing the Association proceeded to business as follows:

Elder C. M. Mills, pastor of Pleasant Grove church served as moderator, and Brother A. E. Broom, clerk of Pleasant Grove church served as clerk, and called Preston Helms to serve as assistant clerk.

1. Invited all orderly Baptists who are in good standaing in their home churches to seats with us.

2. Called for letters from the sister churches composing this Association which were handed in, read and their status noted.

Pleasant Grove, represented by complete membership.

Union Grove: Brethren Claud Baucom, John Barber, F. L. Baucom, Tom Honeycutt.

Mt. Creek: Brethren, Willie Soloman, Artice Medlin, G. C. Medlin and Cicero Taylor.

Lawyer's Springs: Brethren, Cletus Marsh, T. M. Helms, W. A. Dry, and Floyd Stegall.

Union: Brethren, Brady Polk, Guy Johnson, Grady Braswell, and W. R. Coley.

Bethel: Brethren, R. O. Lewis, Frank Mears, W. T. Bell, and others.

High Point: Brethren, R. A. Strickland, I. L. Caughran, C. G. Mitchell and C. L. Parnell.

Mills Chapel: Brethren, H. C. Helms, F. H. Simpson, Lee Nance, and Clyde Caudle.

Meadow Creek: Brethren, R. M. Hatley, N. D. Hathcock, Charlie Furr, and Claude Hathcock.

Watson: Brethren, Preston Helms, Winfred Simpson, F. O. Helms, and J. T. Simpson.

Pleasant Hill: Brethren. Elsie Ammon, Rankin Richardson, Charlie Russell and John Scott.

High Hill: Brethren, M. C. Mills, S. H. Edwards, Earl Presley, and Howard Edwards.

Liberty Hill: Brethren, John Harward, E. F. Lambert, Craven Furr, and Ellis Honeycutt.

Corinth: Represented by letter.

3. Called for petitionary letters. None presented.

4. The Moderator, Elder C. M. Mills, was authorized to appoint committees on preaching and finance.

Committee on preaching: Brethren C. W. Griffin, Carl Griffin, Judge Polk, Ellis Honeycutt and Elder V. V. Willard.

Committee on Finance: Brethren A. E. Broom, Ellis Lambert, S. H. Edwards, R. A. Strickland and Preston Helms.

5. Called on Presbyteries to report.

By authority of Union church a presbytery was organized on July 3, 1949, by Elders E. H. Simpson, C. M. Mills and V. V. Willard, and Deacons A. E. Broome, Cletus Marsh, C. W. Griffin and others and ordained Brother Brady Polk to the office of a deacon.

6. Invited visitors from corresponding associations to seats with us.

Silver Creek: Elder Henry McMillon, Brethren C. D. McGee and Sam Hartley.

In regard to Dan River, a move carried unanimously that the Original Bear Creek Primitive Baptist Association withdraw correspondence with the Dan River until such time she legally sets herself in order.

We deeply regret this sad state of affairs and hope that the good Lord will speed the time that we may mix and mingle together in love and sweet fellowship as we have in the past. Our hearts go out for you.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders J. T. Lewis, J. S. Collins, J. S. Stephenson. Brethren, Millon Byrd, R. H. Clifton, J. D. Stancil, R. F. Smith, Stokes Lawrence, Lemmie Clifton, and Welbur Barbour.

Little River of Georgia: Elders M. M. Morton, W. H. Robbins and Shirley Kelly. Brethren, Edward Cable, H. M. Cagle and F. S. Cagle.

South Arkansas: Minutes.

Mt. Zion: Minutes.

Tennessee-Nolachucky: Elder Shade Tipton and minutes.

Sequachie-Valley and Collins River: Brethren D. M. Roulston and wife and M. F. Wilkinson and wife.

7. Invited visiting Brethren and Sisters from sister associations who do not carry formal correspondence with this association to seats with us.

Original Towaliga: Elders E. D. Spiers and wife and J. P. S. Stephens and wife.

Marietta: Elder J. W. Dempsy.

Friendship: Brother W. E. Gloer and wife and sister G. W. Cook.

Big Sandy: Elder C. M. Mills received a letter from Elder T. L. Webb stating his feeble condition and expressing his blessings on this meeting.

Ebenezer: Elder J. B. Lord and wife and Brother J. F. Lord and wife.

8. Appointed messengers to visit sister associations as follows:

Silver Creek: Elders V. V. Willard and E. H. Simpson.

Little River of North Carolina: Elders C. M. Mills, V. V. Willard, E. H. Simpson and Brethren C. T. Mills, R. F. Hardy and Ellis Honeycutt.

Little River of Georgia: Elders C. M. Mills, V. V. Willard and E. H. Simpson.

South Arkansas: Minutes and messengers if possible.

Mt. Zion: Elder C. M. Mills, E. H. Simpson, and D. B. Willard.

Tennessee-Nolichucky: Elders E. H. Simpson and C. M. Mills.

Sequachie-Valley & Collins River: Elders C. M. Mills, V. V. Willard and Brethren C. T. Mills and A. Z. Mills.

9. Agreed that we continue correspondence with all churches and associations with whom we now correspond.

10. On motion Elder D. B. Willard was appointed to write corresponding letter to be printed in the minutes of this association.

11. It was unanimously agreed to adjourn until Saturday, September 17th at 9:30.

Benediction by Elder E. D. Spiers, of Conley, Ga.

SATURDAY A. M.

Pursuant to adjournment the Association met in the house at 9:30 a. m.

After songs of praise and prayer by Elder J. B. Lord of the Ebenezer Association of Georgia, proceeeded to business as follows:

12. Called on Finance Committee to report.

Handed in by churches	$511.00
Handed in by Friends	79.00
Total	$590.00

13. By motion unanimously agreed to distribute minutes to corresponding associations as usual.

14. Corresponding letter called for read and adopted.

15. On motion it was unanimously agreed that we hold the 1950 session with Union Grove church, Union County, North Carolina, beginning Friday before the third Sunday in September and continuing through Saturday and Sunday following, and that the pastor of Union Grove church preach the introductory sermon.

16. Unanimously agreed that we have 1000 copies of this minute printed and distributed to churches and associations as usual, and that Preston Helms superintend the printing of same and that he be allowed $60.00 for printing, mailing and services.

17. By motion agreed that all funds above allowance for mailing, services and printing be distributed to ministers as the Finance Committee may deem proper.

18. By unanimous agreement the assiciation returns thanks to God for his mercy and to the Brethren, Sisters and friends of this church and vicinity for the kind hospitality and entertainment afforded during this meeting of the Association.

19. Agreed to adjourn to time and place above mentioned.

Benediction by Elder D. B. Willard of the Bear Creek.

ELDER C. M. MILLS, Moderator, R-1, Charlotte, N. C.

A. E. BROOM, Clerk, R-2, Marshville, N. C.

PRESTON HELMS, Ass't Clerk, R3, Marshville, N. C.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Handed in by churches	$511.00
Handed in by Friends	$ 79.00
Total	$590.00
Allowed for clerk and printing	$ 60.00
Distributed to ministers	$530.00
Total	$590.00

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY A. M.

Elder C. M. Mills. Text: Ephesians 1:15-23.

FRIDAY P. M.

Elder W. S. Kelly. Text: Romans 9:15.

Elder J. S. Collins. Text: John 10:27.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder M. M. Morton. Text: What Think Ye Of Christ.

Elder E. D. Spiers. Text: 2 Kings 2:12.

SATURDAY A. M.

Elder J. B. Lord. Text: St. John 12:27.

Elder Henry McMillon. Text: 2 Corinthians 1:9.

Elder J. P. S. Stephens. Text: St. John 3:16.

SATURDAY P. M.

Elder J. W. Dempsey. Text: 2 Timothy 1:8.

Elder J. S. Stephenson. Text: Rom. 10:1-4.

Elder W. H. Robbins. Text: Gen. 6:14-17.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT PLEASANT GROVE

Licentiate Edward Cagle. Text: John 15:16-17.

Elder V. V. Willard, Isa. 49 and Luke 11:21.

AT UNION GROVE

Elder D. B. Willard. Text: Psalms 116:13.
Elder J. T. Lewis. Text: Ephesians 2:4-10.

AT LIBERTY HILL

Elder W. H. Robbins. Text: Luke 5:1.
Elder Shade Tipton. Text: Heb. 12:12.

SUNDAY A. M.

Elder M. M. Morton. Text: Heb. 10:9.
Elder J. T. Lewis. Text: Titus 2:10-15.
Elder E. D. Spiers. Text: Isa. 54:1-8.

SUNDAY P. M.

Elder Shade Tipton. Text: Jer. 8:20.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder C. M. Mills, R-1, Box 124, Charlotte, N. C.
Elder V. V. Willard, R-2, High Point, N. C.
Elder D. B. Willard, R-6, Winston-Salem, N. C.
Elder Hoyle Simpson, R-4, Concord, N. C.
Elder A. N. Green, R-3 Kings Mountain, N. C.
Elder N. T. Mullenax, Elm St., Kings Mountain, N. C.

LICENTIATES

Homer Poplin, R-2, Box 56, Albemarle, N. C.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder M. M. Morton, R-1, Smyrna, Ga.
Elder W. H. Robbins, R-1, Woodstock, Ga.
Elder W. S. Kelly.
Elder Shade Tipton, R-1, Townsend, Tenn.
Elder Henry McMillon, Lenoir, N. C.
Elder J. T. Lewis, Coats, N. C.
Elder J. S. Collins, R-1, Angier, N. C.
Elder J. S. Stephenson, Benson, N. C.
Elder E. D. Spiers, Conley, Ga.
Elder J. P. S. Stephens, Atlanta, Ga.
Elder J. W. Dempsey, Dalton, Ga.
Elder J. B. Lord, Dudley, Ga.
Licentiate Edward Cagle.

OBITUARY

Elder C. H. White was born May 23, 1883, and died November 14, 1948, making his stay here 61 years, 5 months and 21 days.

He joined Lawyer's Springs church over twenty-seven years ago and was ordained to the work of the ministry shortly afterwards and remained a faithful member until death.

He was humble and content to go out to the desolate places rather than the churches with regular servants, always preferring his brethren above himself.

A good servant has fallen to sleep.

CORRESPONDING LETTER

To the churches and messengers composing the Original Bear Creek Association together with the dear servants and visitors from our sister associations, we appreciate your presence more than words can express—greetings.

As another session of this association is convening we desire to thank our blessed lord for the peace and prosperity that the churches composing this body have enjoyed during the past year.

We have been blessed to see many of the little lambs that have been living in the cold world come home to the dear visible church.

Our ministers are contending, we feel, for apostolic principles, the grand old doctrine, salvation by the "sovereign grace of God," and that the child of God receives many blessings by walking in the right pathway here in this world. Our humble desire is that we will continue to see love flow from heart to heart and from breast to breast.

We hope we are thankful for the dear servants who have come from a distance to be with us, telling the sweet story of Jesus and him crucified. May we all pray to the Dear Lord that we will all continue in the straight and narrow way and be satisfied with the principles the Lord gave us.

May we all be found at one another's feet and might it be our blessed lot to meet where congregations will never break up and where sweet meetings will never end.

In bonds of love,

D. B. WILLARD.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one living and true God; the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost.

Article 2. We believe in the man Jesus being the first of all God's creation and the pattern of all God's perfection in nature, grace and glory, and in relative union with the divine word, and thus united with the whole Trinity.

Article 3. We believe that the scripture of the Old and New Testament contain the only written revealed word of God and the perfect rule of faith and practice for God's Church in her militant state while here on earth.

Article 4. We believe in the doctrine of election; that God chose His Church in Christ Jesus before the world began.

Article 5. We believe in all mankind's apostacy by transgression in Adam, the federal head.

Article 6. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 7. We believe in the impotency of man to recover himself from his fallen state by his own free will and ability.

Article 8. We believe that sinners are justified freely by grace and before God by faith in Christ and His righteousness only.

Article 9. We believe that God's elect or Church shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit in due time.

Article 10. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never really fall away.

Article 11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Christ's appointment and that believers alone are the subjects of baptism and the only proper communicants of the supper; that the mode of baptism is immersion, and that neither of the ordinances is to be altered or changed by the inventions or opinions of men. We believe in feet washing as taught by our Saviour in St. John 14: 4-17.

Article 12. We believe that no man as a minister has any right to the administration of any of the ordinances of the gospel except such as are sound in the faith of the gospel, regularly baptized, called of God and have come under the imposition of hands by a regular presbytery.

Article 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust, and a general judgment.

Article 14. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

RULES GOVERNING THE ORIGINAL BEAR CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1st. We understand that at whatever church this Association is being held, that it is being held solely under the authority of that church, just as any other regular or monthly conference.

2nd. That the officers and suffrages of that church shall be the officers and voice of the Association, except as that church may deem prudent to request any member of another church to assist in the business transactions of the Association.

3rd. This Association shall have no authority to pass upon any question of a disciplinary nature except it has first been passed upon by the local churches composing this Association; then the work of the churches shall be recognized by the Association.

4th. Any member who endeavors to bring in or inject a disciplinary question that involves fellowship, before it has been passed upon by the local churches, shall be considered out of order by the church with whom the Association is being held, and by the messengers present from the sister churches.

5th. The Association shall be conducted for no purpose other than song, prayer, and preaching services, and no business shall be transacted by the Association except that which is necessary or sets forth the status of each church composing this body in the form of a minute.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	PASTORS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES	Rec'd by Exp. & Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Relation	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Sunday of Meeting	Contributions
Union Grove	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	Loyd Outen, 1726 Chestnut St., Charlotte, N. C.	13			2			1	125	2	$101.00
Mt. Creek	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	G. C. Medlin, 1827 Charlotte Road, Albemarle, N. C.				1		1	1	25	3	$ 25.00
Lawyer's Springs	Elder V. V. Willard (Serving)	Robert Horne, Peachland, N. C.	2						3	77	1	$ 30.00
Union	Elder E. H. Simpson, R4, Concord, N. C.	W. R. Coley, 106 Eagle St., Belmont, N. C.	1			1		2		27	1	$ 15.00
Bethel	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	W. J. McLamb, Shallotte, N. C.										
	Elder D. B. Willard, R6 Winston-Salem N. C.		1						1	51	4	$ 20.00
High Point	Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.	H. M. Willard, Marble St., Winston-Salem, N. C.	3		1			1	1	108	4	$ 51.00
Mills Chapel	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	C. J. Mullis, Kannapolis, N. C.										
	Elder D. B. Willard, R6 Winston-Salem		2							31	3	$ 15.00
Meadow Creek	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	R. M. Hatley, Oakboro, N. C.	6		1				1	44	1	$ 56.00
Watson	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	Preston Helms, R3, Marshville, N. C.	3							37	4	$ 26.00
Pleasant Hill	Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.	W. E. Lucas, 1221 North St., Greensboro, N. C.	4						1	37	3	$ 25.00
High Hill	Elder V. V. Willard, High Point, N. C.	M. C. Mills, R2, Monroe, N. C.	1						1	50	1	$ 37.00
Liberty Hill	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	Ellis Honeycutt, Oakboro, N. C.	1							70	1	$ 35.00
Corinth	Elder A. N. Green, R3, Kings Mountain, N. C.	Marvin Styles	1						2	11	2	$ 2.00
Pleasant Grove	Elder C. M. Mills, Rt. 1, Charlotte, N. C.	A. E. Broom, R2, Marshville, N. C.	4							61	2	$ 73.00
		Donations by Friends										$ 79.00
		Total	42	0	2	4	0	4	12	754		$590.00

THE MONROE ENQUIRER, MONROE, N. C.